Directions for The Final Word Protocol

1. Individually read the assignment placed on your table. As you read, identify three aspects of the article that you believe are either really “on target.” Mark each part of the article in the reading so that you can easily find it again.

2. In your group, select a timekeeper, a facilitator, and a person to begin.
   a. The timekeeper will need a stopwatch or second hand in order to keep time carefully.
   b. The facilitator’s role is to make sure the process is followed as outlined below.

3. Beginning speaker.
   One person in the group will begin the process by selecting one of the aspects of the article that he or she found of interest and directing others in the group to the place in the reading where the idea is referenced. For up to two minutes, this first speaker talks about this idea. Others in the group listen without talking.

4. When the first person is finished (or when time is called, whichever happens first) the person to the left has one minute to talk about this same idea—building on ideas proposed by the first speaker.

5. In turn, around the table, each member of the group will speak for up to one minute on the same topic. Others in the group listen as each member speaks.

6. When all have had a chance to speak, the original speaker has one more minute to speak; to give “the final word.”

7. Second speaker. A second person selects a different aspect of the assignment, directs other group members to the place in the assignment where the task is referenced, and (following the process above) talks about this idea for up to two minutes. Others listen, and then, in turn, respond for one minute. The second person has a minute for “the final word.”

8. Continue around the group until all have had the opportunity to talk about one of the ideas they gleaned from reviewing the assignment.

---

1 https://connectionsproject.illinoisstate.edu/HSTWresources/20060410/forum_materials.pdf